Using the "Fovvox" Firefox Add-On, a text-to-speech program that reads any highlighted text on a web page aloud, I read an excerpt from Wikipedia regarding the history of the Detroit Lions.   
  
 The use of Frovvox worked very well for me. I am someone who struggles when attempting to read text online. By being able to simply highlight text and have it read aloud, Fovvox eliminates the necessity for readers to stare at a screen and attempt to extract information, which will likely lead to improved comprehension.    
  
 I would definitely consider the use of Fovvox as being "reading". For me, the most important aspect of reading is the comprehension of the information being conveyed.  Even if it is through the use of programs such as Fovvox, if the reader is understanding and internalizing the material,they are reading.  
   
Text-to-voice programs such as Fovvox would provide an excellent "model" for children who are learning to read. If struggling readers were given a hard-copy of the text and were able to follow along with Fovvox as it reads, it could potentially help them establish both site word recognition and phonological awareness skills in an interactive, supportive fashion.  
  
Obviously, Frovvox would be beneficial for students who have difficulty with decoding/comprehending written text. Again, as long as these students are internalizing the information being read to them, they **are** reading. I believe that, if applied appropriately, the use of programs such as Fovvox would be appropriate for any learner in any number of different contexts.   
  
 This program would be extremely effective in the  classroom. Whether it be used for reading a required novel or sifting through web sites while searching for internet sources, students who struggle with traditional reading skills and styles would greatly benefit from the implementation of Fovvox in their classrooms.